meet the following criteria to allot the dealership/distributorship:

1. Nationality	—	Indian
2. Age	—	Minimum 21 yrs. Maximum 60 Yrs.
3. Educational Qualifications	—	Matriculation or recognised equivalent.
4. Residence	—	Resident of the district of the advertiused location and adjoining districts (as mentioned in the advertisement) in the same State.
5. Income	—	Gross income of the candidate should not exceed Rs. 2 lakhs per annum

6. *Multple Dealership Norms:*

No person shall be awarded a new dealership/distributorship if he/she and any of his/her following close relatives (including step relatives) already hold (s) a Letter of Intent or a dealership/distributorship of MS/HSD/SKO-LDO/LPG of any Public Sector Oil Company.

(i) Spouse

(ii) Father/Mother (Not applicable to daughters)

(iii) Brother - Brother's Wife (Not applicable for women applicants)

(iv) Son/Daughter-in-law.

During 1995-96, 1996-97, 1996-97 and 1997-98, 162 retail outlets and 95 LPG distributorships were allotted to SC - ST candidates.

In addition to the locations pending from previous marketing plans, a total of 124 retail outlet dealerships and 455 LPG distributorships have been included in the approved RO & LPG Marketing Plans 1996-98 for SCs/STs category. It generally takes about 1-2 years for commissioning of dealership/distributorship from the date of advertisement.

Setting up LPG Plants

2733. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG plants set up by Government in Public/Private Joint Sector during the Eigth Plan period indicating location of each plant State-wise, cost-wise, company-wise, capacity-wise, actual production-wise, etc.,

(b) the number of new LPG plants Government have proposed/decided to set up during the Ninth Plan period indicating details thereof as above, and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a review committee to assess supply and demand position area-wise, idle capacity of LPG plants reported at Sawai Madhopur, Farukabad, Ajmer or elsewhere to avoid infructuous average expenditure of Rs. 34-40 crores per plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Under the VIII Five year plan, additional capacity of 1120 TMTPA was proposed to be set up by Public Sector Oil Companies, with bottling plants at 54 locations in the Country.

(b) Under the IX Plan, it is proposed to construct 135 new bottling plants all over the country which will result in additional capacity of 3106 TMTPA.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a review committee to assess the supply and demand position area-wise as well as idle capacity of any of the LPG bottling plants. To prevent backlogs and to meet the heavier demand of coming years, it is necessary to create adequate bottling capacity in all the areas of the country.

Formulation of Agency as Petronet

2734. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: